

We Wish You A Merry Christmas
... And A Happy New Year!



Happy Holidays from our entire Elba bank staff!



Happy Holidays from our New Brockton bank staff!

The PEOPLES Bank

ELBA and NEW BROCKTON

Member FDIC

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624 WASHINGTON AVE
MONTGOMERY AL 36130-0100

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 29

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 30, 2004

1 Section, 12 Pages

Commission holds final meeting of 2004

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission voted Monday morning, Dec. 27, to extend a helping hand to the Coffee County Water Authority as the organization currently faces a dilemma.

Austin Mixon addressed commissioners on behalf of the Coffee County Water Authority. He said the water system has been in operation for about 12 months, and it has a payment coming up.

Mixon said not enough water is being used as this time to allow the authority to make the upcoming payment, and regulations with the revenue bond will not allow the organization to take out a loan. Therefore, he asked for the county's help in making the upcoming payment in the amount of \$88,893.97.

Commission chairman Doug Dalrymple said he wants to see the water system work and be successful and he feels sure it will be as the system continues to grow and expand.

Mixon said Phase II of the water system project should be up and going within the next year.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook made a motion with a second from Commissioner Tom Grimsley to pass the resolution presented by Boswell. Commissioners gave the motion a unanimous vote.

County engineer Randy Tindell had several requests for commissioners to consider.

He asked commissioners to approve a resolution authorizing him to start paperwork on road projects for County roads 401,

531, 708, 208 and 409.

He asked for a resolution authorizing the chairman to enter into agreement with the Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of county roads 665 and 409.

He asked for a resolution authorizing the resurfacing of County Rd. 147 with county funds.

He asked for a resolution authorizing the initialization of the project for resurfacing and turning lanes on County Road 404 utilizing the Industrial

everyone involved.

Commissioner Robert Stephens offered the motion with a second from Commissioner Tom Grimsley to pass the resolution presented by Boswell. Commissioners gave the motion a unanimous vote.

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Please See CCC, Page 3



ACCIDENT DELAYS TRAFFIC...Emergency personnel responded to the scene of a two-vehicle accident last Thursday evening, Dec. 23, on U.S. Highway 84 East near the intersection of Stroud Avenue in Elba. According to reports, a 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe, driven by Eleanor Tyler Dean of Opp, Ala., struck a 1989 Ford Ranger, driven by Willie Clearence Flowers of Elba. Both vehicles were traveling eastbound when the accident occurred, however, Flowers was attempting to make a left hand turn into a private driveway when he hit the accident. Dean tried to pass and struck Flowers twice. Witnesses say the Ford Ranger flipped three times before finally resting upside down. Traffic along Hwy. 84 was delayed for quite some time as officers and other emergency personnel worked to secure the scene. Flowers and a passenger in his vehicle, Jerome Silar, were both transported to Enterprise Medical Center by Coffee County EMS. Also responding to the scene was the Elba Fire Department. The accident was investigated by Elba Police Officer Keith Wise. He was assisted by officers Tim Jeter and Heath Truman.

A quick look back at the year that has been 2004

JANUARY

January 1 - A brief look back at the year that was 2003.

January 8 - Arctic air visits Southeast Alabama and residents urged to protect the four p's. (picture) Construction crews pave the section the Hwy. Highway that had been closed for levee rehabilitation work. Elba High School student Meredith English named 2003-04 DAR Good Citizen. (picture) Kelley Foods of Alabama makes monetary donations to several city departments.

January 15 - Elba's levee rehabilitation project expected to be complete in April. Five people arrested at Kinston apartment complex on drug charges. Coffee County Commission looks at refinancing its bond issue. Coffee County BOE recognizes four students for participating in Duke University Talent Identification program. Elba City Schools BOE members accept resignation of head football coach and athletic director Mike Waters.

January 22 - Levee rehabilitation project rekindles lots of memories for some local residents. (picture) Many Elba residents gather for a "walk of remembrance" in honor of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. New Brockton Town Council members filled with questions regarding walking trials, Elba school finances show steady improvements.

January 29 - Rotarians receive update on Toledo Molding and Die plant being constructed. Elba Schools superintendent Danny Weeks says schools' financial condition is the best it has been in years, and he contributes that to an entire community effort. Coffee County Commission approves sale of the Mount Pleasant/Battens Water Authority to the City of Enterprise Water System; New voting lines bring changes for some voters. (picture) Coffee County Firefighters Association sponsors Firefighter I Volunteer Certification Course hosted by the Elba Fire Department.

FEBRUARY

February 5 - Coffee County Water Authority plans third sign-up meeting for Phase II of system expansion project; (picture) Bill and Sharon Taylor of Coffee County were chosen as the Peanut Division winners in the Alabama Outstanding Young Farm Family preliminary competition; Jacob Britt Anderson

of Kinston was killed after an embankment of dirt collapsed on him while working in Greenville, Ala.; Dorsey Trailers reports excellent month of sales. Weather postpones lane closure of Hwy. 84 bridge in Elba for levee rehab project.

February 12 - Alma Haynes, a grandparent and concerned citizen, addresses the Coffee County BOE regarding racism within the system. (picture)

Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting ceremony for Troy F. Oberst Trailhead dedicated in Panama City Beach.

Elba citizens encouraged to attend Town Hall meeting regarding downtown revitalization.

February 19 - Coffee County Commission hears ElderCare Initiative proposal. Coffee County resident Eddie Arnold announces four students for participating in Duke University Talent Identification program.

Elba Mayor James Grimes accepts ribbon cutting ceremony for Kids Unlimited.

New Brockton Town Council gives nod for preliminary planning of firing range.

February 26 - Coffee County receives national award for elder services. March 1 marks the 25th anniversary of Sheriff C.F. "Neil" Grantham's death. Elba City Council awards bid for sewer line extension to Kelley Foods; Citizens show support for downtown revitalization during town hall meeting. (picture) Black History Month celebrated during special program at Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church; Coffee County Commission tables discussion on ElderCare Initiative.

MARCH

March 4 - Early morning ceremony at old Coffee County jail site in Elba celebrates life of late Sheriff C.F. "Neil" Grantham; "New" Coffee County EMS searches for solid ground as a non-profit organization. (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting ceremony for Smith Auto Sales.

March 11 - Elba native Troy King named Alabama's Attorney General; (picture) Local citizens support the Elba Lions Club by attending the annual pancake breakfast.

APRIL

April 1 - Elba City Council approves new policies and pro-

cedures for the Elba Volunteer Fire Department; The Ranch House Cafeteria enters 26th year of business; Jessie M. Lewis announces candidacy for District Two seat of Coffee County Commission; (picture) Max Buzeman of Elba became president of the John Dowling announces candidacy for District Judge of Coffee County; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting ceremony for Tangie and Threads.

April 18 - Charles Webb honored at Elba City Council meeting for his loyalty to the people of Coffee County; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting ceremony for Troy F. Oberst Trailhead dedicated in Panama City Beach.

April 22 - Elba City Council grants tax exemptions to Bridgeline Trailers; New Brockton Elementary School welcomes teacher Linda Lawrence home after serving the country in Iraq; Paul Sherling announces candidacy for District Judge of Coffee County; Elba Mayor James Grimes resigns as principal of Goshen Elementary School; Judge Robert Barr seeks reelection as Circuit Judge, Place Number 2; Larry Fuller announces candidacy for District One seat of Coffee County Commission; Shannon Clark announces candidacy for District Judge of Coffee County; Jeff Kelley announces candidacy for Circuit Judge, Place 3; Rick Hollingsworth Jr. announces candidacy for District Judge of Coffee County.

April 25 - Natural causes determined in death of Charlie Jeff Johnson, Town of New Brockton dedicated peanut butter monument; Coffee County Commissioners again faces issues regarding the paving of County Road 51; Robert Stephen announces candidacy for reelection to Coffee County Commission; (picture) Elba Mayor James Grimes announces candidacy for re-election for third term; (picture) Elba City street department workers make improvements to existing city sidewalks.

April 29 - 60-hour closing planned for Pea River bridge at Highway 84 due to levee rehab.

(picture) A mobile home located near Friendship Grocery was totally engulfed in flames before firemen from Union Grove and the Elba Fire Department could reach the scene; in regards to Mount Pleasant Senior Citizen Center, Coffee County Commission denies 18-day extension for contractor; (picture) Elba City Schools Superintendent Danny Weeks supports the Elba band program by "doin' time" in the jail for Elba during Band Day 2004; (picture) Elba native, Spic Marian Sims returned home to Fort Benning, Ga. after serving a year in Iraq with the 851st QTMCOS. Elba Water and Electric Board changes policies and rates; Paving saga of County Rd. 517 ends after Coffee County Commission

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May 27 - Elba City Schools removed from unitary status lawsuit; (picture) U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions tours the Elba levee from one end to the other. Difference of opinion evident among Coffee County Commissioners in regards to senior center issues; (picture) U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions addressed the Elba Rotary Club members; Elba Police Chief R.W. Whitworth warns citizens about illegal use of 4-wheelers on the roadways; Coffee County receives \$75,000 Homeland Security grant.

June 3 - Coffee County voters cast ballots in Democratic and Republican primaries; Alberta Martin, last Civil War widow and longtime Elba native, dies at age 97; Elba City School board names Scott Rials as new football coach; Joe Cassidy enters county's District Judge race as an independent candidate.

June 10 - Coffee County Commission finally settles Mount Pleasant Senior Citizen Center, Coffee County Commission denies 18-day extension for contractor; (picture) Elba Police Chief R.W. Whitworth warns citizens about illegal use of 4-wheelers on the roadways; Coffee County receives \$75,000 Homeland Security grant.

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June 17 - Funeral services for Alberta Stewart Martin draw national attention during feature in a profile series on the news network CNN.

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July 17 - Funeral services for Alberta Stewart Martin draw national attention; Coffee County receives second highest grade in the state of Alabama from the 2004 inspection of county paved roads; (picture) Williams Signs of Elba decals a bus to be used during John Kerry's campaign for president.

July 24 - Congressman Terry Everett announces federal approval of loan and grant for Coffee County Water Authority; (picture) Emergency personnel respond to the scene of a one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 84 at the Coffee County Stockyard, Stan Windham leads Coffee County Extension office as the new coordinator; Dorsy Trailer Company cited for violations of air pollution control regulations.

July 26 - Grand opening held for Elba's Toledo Molding and Die plant; Kiwanis Club of Elba receives and accepts charter; Alabama author Carol Padgett set to visit Elba Public Library.

July 31 - Coffee County DHR among state's best; (picture) County Commissioners decide to negotiate liquidated damages before approving final payment to the contractor for the senior citizen center projects at Ino and Mount Pleasant.

August 1 - Elba's Toledo Molding and Die plant, Kiwanis Club of Elba receives and accepts charter; Alabama author Carol Padgett set to visit Elba Public Library.

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EDITORIAL

**Elba Chamber of Commerce presents...December's Business of the Month
Dairy Queen of Elba**

Hopefully all our readers had a great Christmas and are looking forward to a Happy New Year. Of course football fans for Alabama, Auburn and Troy will either start off great or in the dumps, as all three teams have bowl games on tap between now and the first of next week.

There were some sour notes for some of our readers, as they faced family deaths and/or serious sickness. As always, our heartfelt prayers go out to them. These things are distasteful and just as bad at any time, but always seem especially painful around the holiday season.

However, as always when things look their worst, we can look around and find others with more, and far greater, problems. The pictures coming out of Sri Lanka, India, Malaysia, Bangladesh and several other Asian countries (and even Eastern Africa) could tear our hearts out. Thousands and thousands of people were killed suddenly when the huge tsunami (tidal wave) came roaring ashore several days ago. Even more lost their homes and businesses. Some lost that and family members. Especially touching to us are the pictures and stories of the little children lost to either drowning and/or from being hit with items being hurled around by the force of the water. Probably worse will be the stories of those washed out to sea and their bodies will never be found. There will be individual horror stories by the gillions coming out from this disaster. None of us can (or really want to) ever hear them all. Following an undersea earthquake these things rage unnoticed along the bottom of the ocean at incredible speeds, rising up above the normal waves only when they get into shallow waters. One can hit land minutes after the quake or in this case it hit some distant areas in Africa hours after the quake.

Those of you who share our delight with having young grandchildren can be assured "Heddy and I will have great Christmas memories of watching our two tear into gifts and anguish over which one to play with now. Of course they join the masses by having entirely too many "things." Yet parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles continue to present them with more. It may be hard to believe but I actually got a four year old to slow down and listen to the reading of a couple of short books....about midmorning Christmas Day.

Doug Lee dropped by Christmas Eve with a sack of tangerines. He wanted us to know that folks in the Lee Community know how it is done also. He said they once had a grapefruit tree; but lost the battle with the cold weather on that one. These tangines were just as tasty as those we received earlier in the month.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!

**LORDY, LORDY
LOOK WHO'S
40!
Love,
Your Family**

Samford University

with Coffee Baptist Association

Offers class in Coffee County**Joshua - OT114**

tought by Rev. Leon Adams

6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Monday Nights:

Called for January 10 - March 28, 2005

Coffee County Baptist Center
603 East McKinnon, New Brockton, AL 36351
Samford University will give continuing education credits.

For further information, call (334) 894-6411

Pre-register now!**The Elba Clipper**

USPS 171-080

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Ricky Mularz - SPORTS
Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

Elba Chamber of Commerce presents...December's Business of the Month**Dairy Queen of Elba**

Sam and Betty Cooper entered the restaurant business in February 2000 after becoming the owners/operators of Dairy Queen of Elba.

In March of 2002, Dairy Queen got a bit of a facelift as Sam and Betty closed the

restaurant for a few weeks to renovate the inside. This renovation proved to be a positive move as more seating was added to the dining area which soon resulted in a larger dine-in business.

Currently, Dairy Queen of

Elba has 16 employees always ready to serve the ever-famous "Cool Treats and Hot Eats."

As with most businesses, the food industry continues to make the necessary changes to stay on top of the demands and needs of the customer and Dairy Queen is no exception.

On Monday, Dec. 20, Dairy Queen introduced its new Grill Burger Menu. Although customers can still find most of

their Dairy Queen favorites on the new menu, there have been a few additions to the mouth-watering choices. Sam and Betty encourage their customers to come by and try a new Blizzard.

Also, Sam said Dairy Queen

now features a Blizzard special each month of the year. He said most will be new blizzards, but a few of the old favorites will also be included.

Sam and Betty Cooper have been serving cool treats and hot eats since February 2000 at the Elba Dairy Queen.

(noise) reported at 630 Jackson Ave. (5:17 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 109 Adkinson Ave. (5:17 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22
- Coffee County EMS dispatched to 20 County Rd. 114. (1:39 a.m.) Coffee County EMS dispatched to 705 Putnam St. (4:48 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 5307 Hwy. 84 (8:46 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 23 Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck near 2371 County Rd. 110 (4:38 a.m.). Motor accident reported at 784 Elba Marketplace parking lot (12:48 p.m.). Two vehicle wreck reported near the residence of 923 East Davis St. on Hwy. 84 (5:15 p.m.). Elba Fire Department dispatched to the wreck on Hwy. 84 (5:16 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck on Hwy. 84 (5:16 p.m.).

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for reckless driving, two for driving with a suspended driver's license; one for leaving the scene of an accident; one for giving false information to an officer.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, DEC. 21 Possible rabid animal reported at 329 Brinson Circle (7:00 a.m.). Caroline St. (11:07 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 22 Fight in progress at 6134 County Rd. 410 (4:11 p.m.). Disturbance

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881 TO REPORT A CRIME REMAIN ANONYMOUS

SATURDAY, DEC. 25 Prowler reported at 138 Riverview Dr. (1:31 p.m.). Fight in progress reported at 1855 Hickman Ave. Lot C10 (1:45 a.m.). Elba Fire Department dispatched to 1403 Smith Ave. (8:26 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 784 County Rd. 401 (12:19 a.m.). Domestic disturbance reported at the Evergreen Cemetery (2:40 p.m.). Prowler reported at 741 Smith Ave. (6:24 p.m.). Elba Fire Department dispatched to the Elba Nursing Home (10:33 p.m.).

SUNDAY, DEC. 26 Disruption reported at 389 Old Samson Rd. (1:44 a.m.). Minor accident reported at the intersection of Claxton Ave. and the Troy Rd. (9:41 a.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 977 Jackson Ave. (9:41 a.m.). Two vehicle accident reported at Hwy 84 West and AL Hwy 166 (12:07 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 585 County Rd. 138 (12:18 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on AL Hwy. 167 (2:31 p.m.). Assault reported at 617 Mullins Apts. (10:47 p.m.).

We have "No Problem" saving you money.

Elba Bryan Paul has joined the firm of Ball, Ball, Matthews and Noyak, P.A.

Mr. Paul is a 2001 graduate of the University of Alabama with a degree in finance and a 2004 graduate of the University of Alabama Law School. He was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in September 2004.

Mr. Paul will concentrate his practice in the areas of general civil and insurance defense litigation, employment law, trucking defense and will support the other members of Ball, Ball, Matthews and Noyak in their practice areas which include insurance and commercial litigation, business transactions, residential and commercial real estate, professional errors and omissions litigation, medical malpractice, worker's compensation law, aviation litigation, products liability, wills and probate and domestic relations law.

The firm has offices in Montgomery and Daphne, Ala.

ELBA CITY COUNCIL 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in City Hall

WATER & ELECTRIC 2nd Monday following council meeting City Hall

ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

ELBA SUPPORT GROUP every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter side on W Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom

COFFEE COUNTY COUNCIL 2nd & 4th Mondays at 7 p.m. in City Hall

LIONS CLUB 3rd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center

ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD 2nd Tuesday at 7 p.m. Supt. Office

AMERICAN LEGION 1st Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall

MASONIC LODGE 170 1st & 3rd Monday of each month 7 p.m.

BAND BOOSTERS 1st Mon. 7 p.m. Elba High School

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER Mon-Fri. 8:12 noon & 12:30 p.m. 1st floor Education @ Farm Center Complex 894-5835

COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. Club House

COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN Wed. Noon Colony Inn

ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY 2nd Thursday at noon. Driscoll Hanger

AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB 1st & 3rd Mondays 7 p.m. Elba High boys locker room

NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Holiday Inn 200 Main Street

Elba Police Report

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Taylor Hill Community Baptist Church to host Watch Night Service

Taylor Hill Baptist Church will be hosting Watch Night Service, December 31, 2004 starting at 9 p.m. Taylor Hill Baptist Church's Christian fellowship will pray the New Year in. Breakfast will be prepared following services, after midnight. The church is located on Hwy 166, 3 miles west of Elba. For more information call 334/469-5677.

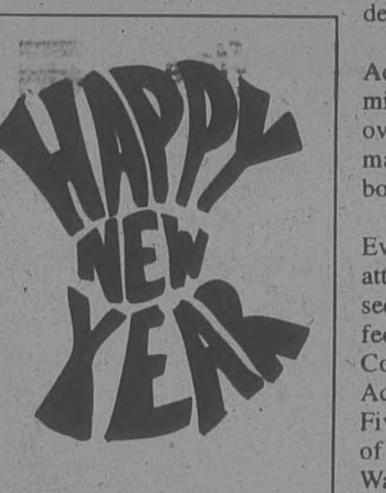
Samford University with/ C.C. Baptist Association to offer classes

Samford University with C.C. Baptist Association will offer classes in Samford County starting on Monday, January 10, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the Coffey Baptist Center at 603 E. McKinnon in New-Brockton. Classes begin on January 10 and continue through March 28, 2005. Joshua - OT 114 will be taught by Rev. Leon Adams.

Samford University will give continuing education credits. For further information, call (334) 894-6411.

Country Cathedral having New year's Eve Gospel Singing

December 31, 2004 singing out the old and in with the New Year at Country Cathedral, located on US 84, 6 miles east of Opp. Featuring gospel in song artist Carl Tillery, Destination Heaven Smooth Gospel, The Camp Deeds Singlrove, The Harrelson Family and The Dykes Family. The concert will start at 8 p.m. ending at 12 midnight. No admission charge, a love offering will be received. For more information please call (334) 493-7413.



PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Stanley Carter, Pastor
Elba United Methodist Church

Read Luke 2: 1-20

I have just recently re-read the Christmas story found in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke. Once again I am reminded of the effort that God has taken to insure our salvation through sending Jesus into the world. How thankful all of us should be for the greatest gift of all, "Jesus".

I am reminded of how God has chosen all persons to be a part of working out His great purposes through Jesus and finally through each of us. What a wonderful privilege God has given to us to be workers for the "Kingdom".

This Christmas season also brings us a reminder of the angels' cannot help but think of the present situation in the Middle East. Please pray for our leaders and those from other countries will bring immediate to work for peace, and continue to build up war. Peace on Earth seems a distant and remote possibility. However, God can do all things. Jesus said, "Peace be still," and calmed the storm at sea and he can bring peace to our troubled hearts. After all, Peace on Earth can only come through peace in our inner being.

Look to God, not just during the Christmas season, but always for God is Peace."

Pray for our military.

Wallace Community College celebrates Science Building renovation

State, federal and local dignitaries recently joined the faculty and staff of Wallace Community College to celebrate the re-opening of the newly renovated Science Building at the Wallace Campus in Dothan.

WCC President Linda C. Young hailed the project as one of her proudest accomplishments as president of the college. She said, "Sixty percent of our student population uses this building for academic course requirements, and 100 percent of our allied health and nursing students, or 38 percent of the total student population, frequents this building in studying the core curriculum required for the completion of their specific degrees."

The Economic Development Administration provided a \$1.2 million grant to initiate the renovation project, and the College matched the allocation with bond money.

U.S. Congressman Terry Everett (R-Rehobeth), also in attendance, helped the College secure an additional \$800,000 in federal funds through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, which passed last spring.

Five hundred thousand dollars of the appropriation enabled Wallace to establish 21 electron-

ic classrooms for instruction with state-of-the-art teaching aids, including on-line courses and archived lectures on demand via the Internet.

The remaining \$300,000 was secured for the Southeast Alabama Nursing Initiative, which is headquartered at Wallace. Everett said, "This funding will enable Wallace College to target instruction to nurses in the Wiregrass to meet the educational needs of health care professionals, while serving to expand the area's workforce in the field of nursing."

Wallace officials plan to convert an existing building into a Center of Instructional Excellence, which will include a 1,000-seat lecture hall for seminars and high-tech training.

Everett also alluded to the College's diligence and stewardship. "I was very pleased to be able to secure that \$800,000," he said. "This is a beautiful facility. It opens the door to us to build a health care workforce."

Recognizing the WCC science faculty as an extraordinary group of ladies and gentlemen, Young reminded the audience that the staff continued to excel throughout the transitional

period of construction. "They were displaced into portable units while this massive renovation project took place," she said.

Young recognized science instructor Dr. Ann McCarty and her students for receiving national recognition for excellence during the displacement.

The American Institute of Physics named the Wallace chapter of the Society of Physics Students an Outstanding SPS Chapter last spring. Young said, "According to the national office, less than 10 percent of the SPS chapters nationwide—about one chapter per state—receives this recognition. Needless to say, we are very proud of them."

Young told students, "We want you to enjoy a technologically-advanced, ergonomic, and beautiful environment as you prepare to the tomorrow's leaders."

Dr. Roy Johnson, chancellor of The Alabama College System, echoed Young's pledge. "This building is the first of many projects anticipated for this campus," he said. "Our best years are ahead of us and not behind us."

Gospel Bluegrass

Festival rescheduled for December 31

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***ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S SING

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The Mullins, and Cannon families, Rev. Joyce B. Johnson, Alan Belcher, Rev. Charles Lane, Nellie R. Hogan, Rubie Watson, Oscar Hogan, Lovie Hooks, Lelia Tyson, and Rev. Roderick L. Tyson.

***DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Sue Dawson - Dec. 27, Dion Brooks - Dec. 27, Karinah Yelverton - Dec. 27, Linda Cole - Dec. 28, Thomas Williams - Dec. 28 (in memory of), Rev. and Mrs. R. Williams - Dec. 28 (W.A.)

NEWS FROM OUR SERVICE FOLKS

BRANDON S. WILSON

Army Pfc. Brandon S. Wilson has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training.

Wilson is the son of Sharon Wilson of Riverview Drive, Elba, AL.

In 2004, the soldier graduated from Elba High School.

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More than 1,100 students from The University of Southern Mississippi were candidates for degrees December 17 during 2004 fall commencement exercises. Southern Miss President Dr. Shelby Thanes conferred undergraduate, graduate and specialist degrees during two ceremonies at Reed Green Coliseum on the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus.

Candidate for graduation from the local is Kimberly Ward of Elba, receiving a Bachelor of Arts.

More than 1,100 students from The University of Southern Mississippi were candidates for degrees December 17 during 2004 fall commencement exercises. Southern Miss President Dr. Shelby Thanes conferred undergraduate, graduate and specialist degrees during two ceremonies at Reed Green Coliseum on the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus.

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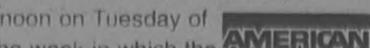
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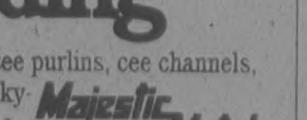
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Toledo Molding & Die, INC. 375 HWY 203 (SR 188) Elba, AL Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm. or Alabama Career Center: 202 West Gate Plaza, Andalusia, AL

Toledo Molding & Die will also be hosting a Job Fair January 8, 2005 from 8am until 2pm at the plant in Elba, AL

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COMMUNITY NEWS

YEAR 2004 IN REVIEW

(Continued from Page One)

by ADEM; (picture) Local youth participate in summer program sponsored by the South Central Mental Health Prevention Services along with the Elba Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department.

JULY
July 1 - Elba Board of Education rotates chairman's position with Rev. Aubrey Williams taking the chairman's seat; (picture). The Elba Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon cutting ceremony for Coffee County Adult Daycare Center in Elba; Cammie Kelley and Katie Vaughan intern for U.S. Senator Richard Shelby; Coffee County Board of Education accepts the resignation of New Brockton band director Dayna Newsome; Coffee County Commission hears strategic plan update.

July 8 - Ground breaking ceremony planned for Kelley Foods expansion project; (picture) Elba Elementary School completes summer school session with a fun day for the final day; City employees test new flood gates around town; Betty Brummet retires from National Security after nearly 40 years of service.

July 15 - Court declares Coffee County School System to be unitary; Coffee County Commission narrowly approves a request from the Elba Industrial Board for the county to assist with site preparation for the Kelley Foods expansion project; L.M. Burch announces plan to seek reelection to District One seat on Elba City Council; Coffee County Board of Education fully supports establishment of the Zion Chapel Community Learning Center; Elba Police Chief R.W. Whitworth updates council members on drug arrests.

July 22 - County BOE accepts letter of retirement from Tom

Moates; (picture) Residents gather for dedication of the Veterans Memorial at the flag pole near Victoria Baptist Church; H.H. "Junior" Culver seeks reelection to Elba City Council District Three seat; Mike McKee announces candidacy for Elba City Council District Three seat; (picture) Kelley Foods of Alabama Inc. breaks ground for expansion project to existing facility; Helen Farris enters race for Elba City Council District Two seat.

July 29 - Coffee County Commission deals with water line issue surrounding paving of County Road 517; (picture) Officials inspect the ongoing construction of the new building for the local State Veterinary Diagnostic Lab; Elba Chamber of Commerce hosts Sunny Side Up before hours meeting; Elba City Council votes to seek bids on street resurfacing; Randy Bedsole announces intent to become mayor for the City of Elba; (picture) 2004-05 officers for the Elba Lions Club take office during meeting.

AUGUST

August 5 - Elba residents attend town hall meeting focused on downtown revitalization; (picture) Janette Flowers and her dog Rock, compete in the 'Pets on Parade' event hosted by the Elba Chamber of Commerce; Governor Riley awards \$400,000 to New Brockton for neighborhood revitalization.

County BOE approves purchase of four buses.

August 12 - New Brockton mayor asks county to work with town in resolving water line relocation problem on County Rd. 517; (picture) Elba Fire Department holds annual MDA "Fill the Boot" drive; (picture) Town of New Brockton certifies municipal election winners; Elba City Council certifies

Harold Spicer and Ronnie Hammonds to another term as council members; New Brockton Water Board agrees to relocate water line on County Rd. 517; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting ceremony for Biker's Alley; Elba BOE holds meeting to finalize the hiring of teachers before the start of the 2004-05 school term.

August 19 - Residents support Diving for Signs event sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce; Elba City Schools superintendent Danny Weeks over smooth start to school year during board meeting; Alabama Virtual Library cards become available at Elba Public Library; Alabama Attorney General Troy King appoints Coffee County native Brenda Flowers Smith to head opinions division; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds Sunny Side Up before hours meeting; Elba City Council holds ribbon cutting ceremony for Hannah's Country Kitchen.

August 26 - City of Elba holds municipal elections for mayor and three city council spots; Several citizens ask Elba City Council to reconsider ballpark idea for Smith Avenue; Coffee County Commission hears budget requests from department heads; (picture) Elba Tiger fans take to the memory lane by attending the annual Froggy Bottom Classic.

SEPTEMBER

September 2 - Firefighters put it all on the line as they enter burning buildings; (picture) The home of Scotty Farmer received extensive damage from an early evening fire in which Elba firefighters fought several hours.

September 5 - Elba City Council approves operating budget for Fiscal Year 2005; (picture) The Elba Fire Department and electrical crews responded to the scene of an incident near Quality Wood Work and NASCO Equipment Company after a tractor-trailer got caught on a power line.

OCTOBER

October 7 - Elba City leaders take oath of office; (picture) County youngster attends annual Farm City Petting Zoo and Agricultural Exhibits.

September 9 - Baptists prepare to feed victims of Hurricane Frances; (picture) Coffee County Extension coordinator Stan Windham addresses Elba Lions Club; Coffee County Schools rank second in state on meeting accountability goals; Elba man Jimmy Guilford hurt in Florida truck-house collision.

September 16 - Officials and residents prepare for Hurricane Ivan's potential impact on area; Coffee County Commission awards annual bids; (picture) Harriet Crommell and her dog Penny stopped in Elba as they made their way away from their home in Seagrove Beach, Fla. and Hurricane Ivan's disposition.

September 23 - Hurricane Ivan delivers destructive path across state and county; Elba mayor James Grimes says he is proud of employees' response to hurricane; Elba City Council approves budget for 2005-06 school year; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon cutting ceremony for Alex's Barber and Style Shop.

October 21 - Local national guard unit notified of pending activation; Elba Marching Tiger Band shines at Little Big Horn band contest; (picture) Resurfacing work on Highland Drive is part of a seven street resurfacing project for the City of Elba; Elba's Endee Houston named first place runner-up at Little Miss Peanut Festival pageant; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon cutting ceremony for Wireless Plus.

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November 11 - National Guard troops given aousing send off in Elba and Troy; Coffee County Commissioners accept the oath of office; Student attendance increases for Coffee County Schools; Fly shots available for high risk persons.

NOVEMBER

November 18 - Elba residents Wesley DeVane and Johnny Sease negotiate their lives to live another following a late night three-vehicle accident on Highway 87 in Pike County; (picture) Michaela Moseley and Tripp Stephens dress in their favorite Alabama/Auburn colors prior to the annual Iron Bowl; The Elba Clipper begins six-week serial story feature; Elba proclaims November as National Hospice Month; Governor Riley awards \$10,000 for recycling program in Coffee County.

DECEMBER

December 2 - Coffee County conducts automatic recount of votes for Amendment Two issue; (picture) Miss Elba Lyndsay Lawford and Kate Hudson were among those one the square in Elba on Saturday, Nov. 27, for the annual Elba Christmas Festival; Elsie Clark enjoys family reunion 60 years after leaving her native home of New Zealand; Elba City Council votes to move forward with demolition project of the Jr. High wing of the old Elba School building; Awards presented during the annual Farm City Week Banquet in Coffee County.

December 9

- New Brockton Town Council hears proposal to consider adding a K9 unit to the police department; (picture) Miss New Brockton Sonya Hornsby and Junior Miss New Brockton Whitney Donaldson participated in the annual New Brockton Christmas parade; Mouth watering recipes enjoyed during Coffee County Extension's recipe contest and tasting tea; New Brockton officials urge citizens to follow trash pickup rules; Coffee County EMS acquires new ambulance with City of Elba's help.

December 16

- Kinston School approved as Alabama Reading Initiative School for 2005-06 school year; (picture) Coffee County BOE members Larry Eddie and Jimmy Clark accept oath of office for new term; Dyke Rushing resigns from Alabama Department of Transportation; Coffee County Commission hears news of \$1.6 million industrial access grant for businesses on County Rd. 404; (picture) Miss Elba Lyndsay Lawford accepts a first place award for the City of Elba float from Enterprise City officials during a council meeting following the annual Enterprise Christmas parade; Kinston native April Dawn Hawthorne crowned Miss Alabama Agriculture; Sarah Hamm places second in Alabama 2005 Junior Miss Scholarship program.

December 23

- The Matt Brunson family is featured as Elba's 2004 Christmas Family.

Commission votes to apply for grant for senior center building at Zion Chapel; New Brockton mayor and council members take oath of office; (picture) The Elba Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon cutting ceremony for Lower Alabama Girls.

NOVEMBER

November 4 - General election gets high voter turnout in Coffee County; (picture) Emergency officials responded to a two-vehicle wreck at the intersection of the Troy Highway and County Road 342; (picture) Elba Elementary students participate in Red Ribbon Week with several special activities including a dum-dum sucker contest which was won by kindergarten student Justin Messick; New Brockton Council approves motion to charge for trash pickup; (picture) Local citizens filled the downtown area Saturday, Oct. 30, for the chamber's annual event Pumpkins on the Square.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Kinston Athletic Club holds annual Christmas pageant on Dec. 4



0-11 MONTHS...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Alexa Leann Harper, first alternate; Jessica Hailey Odom, queen; and Kaylin Brynn Worthy, second alternate.



12-18 MONTHS...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Miranda Hughes, first alternate; Kaitlyn Pierce, queen; and Madeline Jackson, second alternate.



19-35 MONTHS...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Baylie Hayes, second alternate; Brooklyn Moore, queen; and Callie Nicole Dean, first alternate.



3-4 YEAR OLD...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Callie Mackenzie Worthy, second alternate; Madison Courson, first alternate.



5-6 YEAR OLD...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Alexandria Wiggins, second alternate; Hanna Anderson, queen; and Baylee Holley, first alternate.



13-14 YEAR OLD...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Micia Edmonds, second alternate; Heather LeighAnn Marlow, queen; and Kourtney Meagan Pierce, first alternate.



15-16 YEAR OLD...The queen and alternate winners for this division included (from left) Stephanie Meyers, second alternate; Ashley Mills, queen; and Brimni Cosby, first alternate.



Congratulations to All the Young Ladies!

YEAR 2004 IN REVIEW

(Continued from Page One)

by ADEM; (picture) Local youth participate in summer program sponsored by the South Central Mental Health Prevention Services along with the Elba Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department.

JULY
July 1 - Elba Board of Education rotates chairman's position with Rev. Aubrey Williams taking the chairman's seat; (picture). The Elba Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon cutting ceremony for Coffee County Adult Daycare Center in Elba; Cammie Kelley and Katie Vaughan intern for U.S. Senator Richard Shelby; Coffee County Board of Education accepts the resignation of New Brockton band director Dayna Newsome; Coffee County Commission hears strategic plan update.

July 8 - Ground breaking ceremony planned for Kelley Foods expansion project; (picture) Elba Elementary School completes summer school session with a fun day for the final day; City employees test new flood gates around town; Betty Brummet retires from National Security after nearly 40 years of service.

July 15 - Court declares Coffee County School System to be unitary; Coffee County Commission narrowly approves a request from the Elba Industrial Board for the county to assist with site preparation for the Kelley Foods expansion project; L.M. Burch announces plan to seek reelection to District One seat on Elba City Council; Coffee County Board of Education fully supports establishment of the Zion Chapel Community Learning Center; Elba Police Chief R.W. Whitworth updates council members on drug arrests.

July 22 - County BOE accepts letter of retirement from Tom

Moates; (picture) Residents gather for dedication of the Veterans Memorial at the flag pole near Victoria Baptist Church; H.H. "Junior" Culver seeks reelection to Elba City Council District Three seat; Mike McKee announces candidacy for Elba City Council District Three seat; (picture) Kelley Foods of Alabama Inc. breaks ground for expansion project to existing facility; Helen Farris enters race for Elba City Council District Two seat.

July 29 - Coffee County Commission deals with water line issue surrounding paving of County Road 517; (picture) Officials inspect the ongoing construction of the new building for the local State Veterinary Diagnostic Lab; Elba Chamber of Commerce hosts Sunny Side Up before hours meeting; Elba City Council votes to seek bids on street resurfacing; Randy Bedsole announces intent to become mayor for the City of Elba; (picture) 2004-05 officers for the Elba Lions Club take office during meeting.

AUGUST

August 5 - Elba residents attend town hall meeting focused on downtown revitalization; (picture) Janette Flowers and her dog Rock, compete in the 'Pets on Parade' event hosted by the Elba Chamber of Commerce; Governor Riley awards \$400,000 to New Brockton for neighborhood revitalization.

County BOE approves purchase of four buses.

August 12 - New Brockton mayor asks county to work with town in resolving water line relocation problem on County Rd. 517; (picture) Elba Fire Department holds annual MDA "Fill the Boot" drive; (picture) Town of New Brockton certifies municipal election winners; Elba City Council certifies

Harold Spicer and Ronnie Hammonds to another term as council members; New Brockton Water Board agrees to relocate water line on County Rd. 517; (picture) Elba BOE approves Fiscal Year 2005 capital plan; (picture) Elba Lions Club takes office during meeting.

September 2 - Firefighters put it all on the line as they enter burning buildings; (picture) The home of Scotty Farmer received extensive damage from an early evening fire in which Elba firefighters fought several hours.

September 5 - Elba City Council approves operating budget for Fiscal Year 2005; (picture) The Elba Fire Department and electrical crews responded to the scene of an incident near Quality Wood Work and NASCO Equipment Company after a tractor-trailer got caught on a power line.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Zion Chapel School primary classes attend special holiday event at Pike Pioneer Museum

The Zion Chapel School primary classes, Kindergarten through 2nd grade, enjoyed several special treats on their field trip to Troy, Wednesday, Dec. 15.

First, they visited the Pioneer Museum of Alabama where they saw a master puppeteer perform "Twas the Night Before Christmas." While one group saw the puppet show, another

group had a picnic at the One Room School House, and a third group visited the music room to sing Christmas carols with music provided by Mrs. Rhonda Flowers who played the carols on an antique pump organ.

After a successful morning at the museum, the children attended the showing of the classic children's story, "The Polar Express."



Mrs. Shasta Arnett's first grade class from Zion Chapel



Shirley Brooks' Kindergarten class from Zion Chapel



Mrs. Lisa Smith's first grade class from Zion Chapel



Mrs. Kelli Cobb's first grade class from Zion Chapel



Mrs. Sylvia Hudson's second grade class from Zion Chapel

**All Christmas Items
✓ 35% Off**

**Non-Christmas Items
20% - 50% Off**

**Briar Patch
Garden & Gift Shoppe**
On the Square • Downtown Elba • 897-8591



Mr. Michael Herrington's second grade class from Zion Chapel



Mrs. Janice McCall's second grade class from Zion Chapel

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2002 CHEV EX CAB LS - 4X2 - Only 19K Mile - One Owner

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